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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 91ST CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

REVIEW STAFF

June 3, 1976

76-0453

STATINTL CRC, 11/18/2003

Review Staff
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

Dear Seymour:

The Committee received your letter of 21 May 1976 concerning the Committee's history of the CIA. I am glad the clearance process on sources and methods has reached a mutually agreeable conclusion, and that there are no outstanding differences in this regard.

From the outset it was the Committee's intention to publish as full an unclassified history of the CIA as possible, one that would provide insight to the organization and development of the Agency, and that would educate the American public about the activities and direction of its civilian intelligence service. This was the Committee's purpose in bringing on to the staff a trained historian to pursue the project, and this was the understanding under which the Committee proceeded. Those people who were interviewed by the author were informed that the information they provided might be used for publication within the restrictions of sources and methods considerations. Those interviewed were given assurances that they would not be identified or quoted -- a promise which the author meticulously observed, despite the obvious desirability of source citations.

The short summary history published in Volume I of the Committee's final report was intended solely to provide a historical backdrop for consideration of CIA-related issues which the report raised. That summary was never intended as a substitute for the fuller independent study the Committee was committed to making public.

Your comment regarding access to the McCone history misrepresents the arrangements under which the Committee proceeded with NSC officials. An NSC representative was drawn into every stage of the review process. In consultation with senior Executive branch officials that person reviewed use of the McCone material

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as well as the entire history. Moreover, his opinion and that of the State Department reviewer, regarding the quality of the report, were highly favorable.

Much of the material gathered during research for the history was not included in the published version. That classified material will remain in the files of the successor oversight committee and will serve as a working source of information for the future.

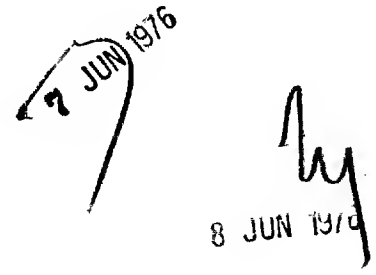
The history has benefited from the review process throughout the Executive branch and I am gratified that the response from experienced intelligence officers who have reviewed the history was so positive with regard to its quality and objectivity. I recognize that the cautions expressed by those immediately concerned with operations should be borne in mind. They have been.

I want to thank you for your help and the contributions that you have made.

Sincerely,

Bill

William G. Miller
Staff Director

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|--|----------|---------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL SLIP | | DATE 7 June 1976 |
| TO: Jack Blake | | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | |
| REMARKS: The last paragraph of this letter adds insult to injury.  7 JUN 1976 8 JUN 1976 | | |
| FROM: | | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | EXTENSION |

STATINTL

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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